

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 AF-10 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 MC-02 /159 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

SECSTATE WASHDC 1904

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5486

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF MARR NO UR

SUBJ: NORWEGIAN OFFER OF UNEF TROOPS

REF: OSLO 4483

1. PARTICIPATION OF NORWEGIAN TROOPS IN UNEF WAS NOT SO MUCH "CLOCKED" (PARA 6 REFTTEL), AS IT WAS CASE OF "NO DECISION TAKEN" (PARA 5). NORWEGIAN NATO MEMBERSHIP PER SE NOT FACTOR SO MUCH AS ITS DEFINITION AS "WESTERN" NATION.

2. EARLY IN SC CONSIDERATION OF UNEF COMPOSITION, SOVIETS MADE ISSUE OF UN SECRETARIAT'S OVER-DEPENDENCE ON WESTERN TROOP CONTINGENTS AS FIRST ARRIVALS IN CAIRO WERE HASTILY DESPATCHED - AUSTRIAN, FINNISH AND SWEDISH TROOPS, FOLLOWED BY IRISH CONTINGENT, ALREADY SERVING WITH CYPRUS UN FORCES. INTERIM COMMANDER (FINNISH) AND HQ STAFF FROM UNTSO IN JERUSALEM WERE ALSO WESTERN. SOVIETS, WITH
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SUPPORT OF MANY NON-ALIGNED, INSISTED ON BROADER GEO-

GRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.

3. ADDITION OF CANADA TO UNEF WAS DEEMED ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR SKILLED LOGISTICS CAPACITY, BUT ACCEPTANCE OF APRALLEL POLISH CONTINGENT TO SHARE LOGISTICS DUTIES MET USSR INSISTENCE ON WARSAW PACT CONTINGENT WHILE NOT PERMITTING POLES TO OPERATE AS SEPARATE UNIT. ANY FURTHER EUROPEAN ADDITONS (PRESUMABLY IN "MATCHED PAIRS") WOULD HAVE FURTHER DISTORTED GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE, HENCE ACCEPTANCE OF THREE AFS (GHANA, KENYA AND SENEGAL, TWO LAS (PANAMA AND PERU) AND ONE EA (INDONESIA).

4. PROBABILITY OF CALL FOR ADDITIONAL TROOPS, SO LONG AS PRESENT SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST CONTINUES IN RELATIVE STABILITY, IS MOST UNLIKELY. PRESENT SC AUTHORIZED CEILING OF 7,000 TROOPS CAN BE MET BY COUNTRIES ALREADY NAMED. IN ADDITION, UN SECRETARIAT AND UNEF COMMAND IS ENCOUNTERING SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES TRANSPORTING, EQUIPPING, MAINTAINING, STATIONING AND FINANCING PRESENT UNDERSTRENGTH UNEF COMMAND.

5. YOU MAY WISH REMIND NORWEGIANS THAT AMB SCHAUFELLE IN HIS STATEMENT ON PEACEKEEPING MADE STRONG PLEA THAT THOSE NATIONS WITH PEACEKEEPING EXPERIENCE AND EARMARKED FORCES BE GIVEN PRIORITY CONSIDERATION IN SELECTION OF CONTINGENTS AS LONG AS CRITERIA OF QUALIFICATION AND IMPARTIALITY ARE MET. WE CERTAINLY HAD NORWAY - AND OTHER SCANDINAVIANS - IN MIND. BENNETT

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